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REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are currently pending in this Application. The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) with respect to claim 30. Claims 1-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-14, 16-19, and 21-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,318,608 to Fowler et al. ("Fowler"). Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fowler in view of U.S. Patent 5,626,271 to Messey et al. ("Messey"). Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fowler in view of U.S. Patent 5,964,470 to Syendsen et al. ("Syendsen"). Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fowler in view of U.S. Patent 5,020,709 to Hoaglan or U.S. Patent 3,841,543 to Bolton. Furthermore, Examiner points out that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection and to include all of the limitations of the base claims and all intervening claims.

Claims 6 and 11 have been amended. Claim 6 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to become allowable. Claim 11 has been amended to correct a spelling error. Reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

I. Rejections under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a).

The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) with respect to claim 30. That claim has been cancelled from the application. Accordingly, it is believed that this objection has been overcome.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

On page 3 of the present Office Action, the Examiner primarily explains that the claims recite the strap to be slidable. Also, the Examiner further explains that "there are no structures recited to enable the functionality of the device." Specifically, the Examiner explains that "the two buckles and the vertical extending straps on the back wall" are omitted from the

claims. It is respectfully submitted that these elements of the invention are present in the original claims.

Specifically, regarding the Examiner's statement that the strap is recited to be slidable, it is the Applicant's position that nowhere in the claims is the strap disclosed as being slidable. As disclosed in the claims, the strap is *slidably coupled or mounted* to a rear face or a loop (which is coupled to a frame). Specifically, claim 6 specifies that the first portion of the quick connects 38, 64 are slidably mounted to the loops 40, 68. Claim 6 also specifies that the second portion of the quick connects 38, 64 are attached to the straps 36, 60, thus slidably coupling the straps 36, 60 to the loops 40, 68. As such, it is clear that the straps, namely the shoulder and leg straps, are not, by themselves, "slidable" with respect to the frame. Rather, as clearly set forth in the specification, drawings and claims as filed, they are slidably coupled to or slidably mounted to the loops.

With respect to the Examiner's argument about how the leg strap and shoulder straps are connected, it is agreed that they merely comprise separate portions of the same straps. As such, it should be clear that relative movement on one portion affects the same opposite relative movement on the other portion. This is consistently referred to in the claims and specification and it is believed that it is enabled as such to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Additionally, it is noted that the Examiner appears to believe that the "buckles" have been omitted from the claims thereby rendering them non-enabled. In this regard, the Examiner is directed to the term "quick connect" as used consistently throughout the claims and specification appear to be what the Examiner construes as buckles. The argument with respect to the loops and the slits is addressed above.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth herein, it is believed that the Examiner's 112 rejections have been overcome.

III. Amended claim 6 is now allowable

Examiner explains that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection and to include all of the limitations of the base claims and all intervening claims. Therefore, claim 6, as currently amended to overcome the above rejection, is in condition for allowance.

Claim 6, as currently amended, is directed to a child harness comprising a crotch support coupled to a frame, the crotch support adapted to provide a seat for a child and distribute the child's weight to the frame, an active restraint coupled to the frame and responsive to the movement of the child secured therein, the active restraint including a leg strap adapted to engage a leg of the child and a shoulder strap adapted to engage a shoulder of the child; wherein the leg strap is operatively coupled to the shoulder strap, wherein movement of one of the legs or shoulders of the child to engage the leg strap or shoulder strap restraining that portion of the child's body operates to increase tension on the corresponding shoulder strap or leg strap on the same side of the child's body, wherein a rear face of the frame includes a loop to which the shoulder strap is slidably mounted thereto, wherein the loop includes a first portion of a quick-connect slidably mounted thereto, wherein the shoulder strap includes a second portion of the quick connect, and wherein the first portion and the second portion are adapted to be coupled together to couple the loop to the shoulder strap.

This amendment respectfully overcomes the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112. As seen in the 35 U.S.C. §112 analysis set forth above, claim 6 is not indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Furthermore, this amendment includes all the limitations of the base claim (claim 1) and all intervening claims (claim 5) as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this amendment places claim 6 in condition for allowance.

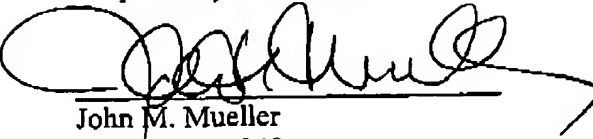
Additionally, all of the claims amended to depend therefrom should be allowable as well.

VI. Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims 1-32 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections of record is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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